

St. Luke's United Church of Christ 2025 Annual Report



SANCTUARY WORSHIP



MUSIC



**FELLOWSHIP HALL
WORSHIP**



NEW HVAC



SUNDAY SCHOOL



PRIDE FEST

2025 Annual Congregational Meeting Sunday, January 25, 2026 Agenda

Call to Order, Julie Sehrt, President

Opening Prayer, Rev. E. Paul Emily, Pastor

Approval of Minutes

Report of Nominating Committee

Election

Old Business

New Business

Adjournment

Reports included in this booklet:

Pastor's Report

Church Council President's Report

Treasurer's Report

Living Memorial Funds Report

Audit Committee Report

Investment Committee Report

Personnel Committee Report

Church Program Report

Buildings and Grounds Report

Communications Committee Report

Music Committee Report

St. Luke's In Pictures

St. Luke's By the Numbers

In Memory of Our Loved Ones

St. Luke's Church Council 2025

Elders

Carlos Ramon (2026)
Tami Dickerson (2027)
Barry Harris (2027)
Mike Lowry (2028)

Deacons

Jeff Ruoff (2026)
Julie Sehrt (2026)
Karen Zuiderhof (2027)
Pete Jaberg (2028)
Paula McKinney (2028)

Treasurer: Karen Zuiderhof
Memorial Fund Advisor: Marita Ray

St. Luke's Board of Christian Education 2025

Katelynn Emily (2026)
Jessica Lavigne (2027)
Lisa Jaberg (2028)

Erin Reese (2026)
Kathy Lowry (2027)
Natalie Spangler (2028)

Living Memorial Committee 2025

Dan O'Neill (2026)
John Kritos (2027)

Teresa Harris (2026)
Penny Johnson (2027)

The Nominating Committee submits the following
nominees for positions open January 2026

Church Council

(Three Year Terms)

Linda Sehrt (Elder, 2029) Jodie Puhr (Deacon, 2029)
Jennie Burkemper (Deacon, 2029)

Board of Christian Education

(Three Year Terms)

Teresa Harris (2029) John McKinney (2029)

Living Memorial Committee

(Two Year Terms)

Jane Morman (2028) Ginger Ruoff (2028)

Elected Positions with Term Limits

Treasurer

(5 Year Term and may be re-elected per Bylaws Article IV, Section 3, Part B)
Karen Zuiderhof (2030)

Memorial Fund Advisor

(5 Year Term and may be re-elected per Bylaws Article IV, Section 3, Part C)
Marita Ray (2030)

Council Appointed Committees **with Term Limits 2025**

The person goes off at the beginning of the year listed.

Investment Committee

(4 People, including Treasurer)

(5 Year Term, May be reappointed per Bylaws Article IV, Section 4., 2b)

Jeff Ray (2030)

Chris Bernard (2030)

Mel Sehrt (2030)

Karen Zuiderhof, Treasurer

Nominating Committee

(5 People, Pastor, ex-officio)

(5 Year Term, Staggered per Bylaws Article IX, Section 2, Part A)

Julie Sehrt (2026)

John McKinney (2027)

Jeff Ruoff (2028)

Teresa Harris (2029)

John Kritos (2030)

Pastoral Relations Committee

(3 Year Term, Staggered per Job Description)

Karen Zuiderhof (2026)

Jane Earnhart (2027)

John McKinney (2028)

Safe Church Committee

(3 People including 1 staff, Pastor, ex-officio)

(4 Year Term, Staggered per Bylaws Article IV Section B)

Paula McKinney (2027)

Barry Harris (2029)

Mariah Mosely, Church Program Director

Nanette Moore, Staff Representative

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

2025 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 26, 2025

President Julie Sehrt called the meeting to order. The meeting was held in-person and over Zoom.

Pastor Paul Emily started the meeting with prayer.

Julie welcomed everyone and indicated there would be three items for votes (minutes, nominations, and bylaws).

She presented the 2024 **Annual Meeting Minutes**, seeing no corrections, the minutes were accepted as submitted.

Nominating Committee recommended the following:

Church Council (Three Year Terms) - passed

Mike Lowry (Elder, 2028)

Pete Jaberg (Deacon, 2028)

Paula McKinney (Deacon, 2028)

Board of Christian Education (Three Year Terms) - passed

Lisa Jaberg (2028)

Natalie Spangler (2028)

Living Memorial Committee (Two Year Terms) – passed

John Kritos (2027)

Penny Johnson (2027)

Officers (Five Year Terms) - passed

Treasurer – Karen Zuiderhof (2030)

Memorial Advisor – Marita Ray (2030)

Unfinished Business:

o None

New Business

o **Church Council** recommended the following Bylaws Modification:

The congregation was asked to vote on amending the bylaws to strike out “Director of Christian Education” and replace it with “Church Program Coordinator”. This change is requested because the title of this position has been changed. The amendment was approved by the majority, and the change will be made throughout the bylaws.

Julie thanked those that are exiting their positions.

The meeting was adjourned.

Jane Earnhart, Council Secretary

ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING

ST. LUKE'S CONGREGATIONAL BUDGET MEETING JUNE 29, 2025

The annual budget meeting was called to order by Council President, Julie Sehrt, at 11:52 a.m.

The meeting was available via Zoom and in-person attendance. There were two attendees via Zoom.

Pastor Paul provided the invocation.

Printed and electronic copies were available for the attendees to review and follow along during the meeting.

Julie provided an overview of the budget and explained memorial funds vs. offerings for revenue.

The budget committee focused on two items while reviewing the proposed budget, cost of living and salary increases for the employees. Expenses were kept mainly flat other than salaries and items affected by inflation.

The staff salaries for the organist and the conductor increased 4%. Pastor Paul's salary was increased 2.5%. Pastor Paul has elected to take his increase in his salary rather than his annuity like prior years. The salary for the Church Program Coordinator was not increased for the 2025-2026 proposed budget due to the position just receiving a pay increase for 90-day review. The salary for the Administrative Assistant was not increased for the 2025-2026 proposed budget due to the job split of this position and the Christian Education Coordinator.

Julie Sehrt explained the proposed 2025-2026 was a total increase of 4%. The total revenue needed for F/Y 2025-2026 is \$276,743.

Julie asked the congregation if there were any questions or comments. Hearing none, she called for a vote to accept the budget as presented. The congregation approved the presented budget.

No opposing votes.

With no unfinished or new business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Paula McKinney

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

**ST. LUKE'S
SPECIAL
CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING
AUGUST 17, 2025**

- I. Call to Order** - Julie Sehrt, Council President, called the meeting to order at 11:48 a.m.
- A. The meeting was held in person and via Zoom.
 - B. St. Luke's United Church of Christ Sanctuary Heating and Air Conditioning Project Power Point was displayed on the screen for members to see.
- II. Invocation** – Pastor Paul led the congregation in prayer.
- III. Power Point discussion** – Julie invited Jeff Ray, Building & Grounds Committee representative, to explain the project.
- A. Jeff showed pictures of the existing units – air handlers, boilers, and cooling towers, some of which have been used for the past 63 years. The pieces of equipment will be dismantled into smaller pieces and removed from the basement.
 - B. Jeff explained that new furnaces will go in the space where the existing equipment is in the basement. Outside in front of the church there will be six air conditioning units.
 - C. Other “Balance of Plant” costs totaling \$8500.00 will support installation of the new systems. This includes concrete pad to put under air conditioning units (\$1,200.00), cages to put over the air conditioning units for security measures (\$3,675.00), haul away basement junk/cleaning (\$300.00), landscaping (\$800.00), and block wall/insulation (\$2,525.00).
 - D. The Sanctuary HVAC Project Budget will total \$124,000.00. This includes contract price from Mortan Man, Inc., Balance of Plant Costs, and Contingency 5% of Base Price.
 - E. No questions were asked from the congregation about the slides discussed.

Sources of Funding - Julie Sehrt displayed the sources of funding on the screen.

- A. Sources of Funding -
 - Undesignated Memorial Funds - \$8,116.00
 - Unused Miscellaneous Accounts - \$1,322.00
 - HVAC Fund donations to date - \$53,012.00
 - MF Major Repair (one half) - \$25,000.00
 - Total Funds Available - \$87,450.00
- HVAC Project Budget - \$124,000.00
- Unfunded Balance - \$36,550
- Requested Limit from Multhaupt Fund - \$45,000.00 (additional money for contingency of repairs/items contractor not aware of)
- B. Julie asked for any questions about the funding –
 - I. A question was asked about the timeline for repairs was asked. Jeff stated the goal is to have all work completed by the end of September.

Motion – Julie displayed the motion on the screen.

- A. By recommendation of the Church council to move forward with the HVAC project using Mortan Man, Inc. and adopt project funding recommendations as presented, including use of up to \$45,000.00 of the Multhaupt Fund (as needed).
 - i. There was a brief discussion about the motion by the congregation.
 - ii. Ginger Ruoff called for the question.

Motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment – Julie Sehrt adjourned the meeting at 12:07 p.m.

PASTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT 2025

**“I would like to live like a river flows,
carried by the surprise
of its own unfolding.”**

That is the quote from John O'Donohue that Nanette had posted on the Sunday School mural in the hallway when 2025 began. It seems to have been a fitting quote for our life together at St. Luke's as we reflect on the year gone by.

The Lenten Study, “Lenten Rivers,” called us to honor and revere rivers as we reflected on God as our one true source. Letting the Spirit flow wildly where it would, we were called to step into that river and go with its flow, twisting and turning as it rolled ever onward, “carried by the surprise of its own unfolding,” as O'Donohue says.

It was easy enough in theory and made for an interesting Lenten Study, but then we seemed to be washed away with the surprise of that unfolding. The HVAC system failed...in the middle of summer! The only thing we could do in response was to “go with the flow.” The pulpit, lectern and altar were moved from the history room into the fellowship hall. Chairs were set up. Another piano was added. The Livestream equipment connected. Margie and Matthew, with the help of volunteers, managed to sanctify the worship space with the beauty of sacred music. Mariah sprang into action, gathering an increasing number of kids to color as they absorbed what was going on from a closer perspective to the worship service. There we found quiet pools of worship as we received new members, celebrated baptisms and a confirmation service, held funerals and memorial services. We worshiped in intimate fellowship for five months, surprised by our unfolding, going with the flow of the ever-moving Spirit.

All the while, our ministry continued to roll along, offering nurturing support to those along the banks, whether the need be spiritual or physical. Many visitors and guests found the cup of cold water they so desperately needed, either from the Sharing Table, in to-go bags of food or toiletries, or the many other creative ways our ministry made known the presence of God's comfort and hope. Windows into St. Luke's continued to offer spiritual support and connection through our virtual ministry, offering daily livestreams and a virtual prayer chapel, Windows Of Prayer. The living water continued to flow through our faithful ministry, in person and virtually.

With the challenge of the cost of the HVAC system, we were again surprised at the unfolding of our story. The congregation approved a plan to establish a special fund to meet the challenge, knowing we would surely not be able to cover the full cost of the project, even given the prolonged installation process. Approval was granted for making up the anticipated shortfall.

Then the flood gates opened and the support gushed in! Members and friends responded with unbelievable generosity. The response spoke to not only of the loyalty to St. Luke's but was a clear declaration of affirmation of the work and ministry being done by our congregation. By year's end, the project was fully funded by existing memorial funds and the amazing support of donations from members and friends! We could not have been more surprised by “our own unfolding.”

This kind of support is beyond words. It happens best by being faithful to our congregation's mission of knowing and making known the presence of God, and “going with the flow” and being carried by the surprise of the evermoving Spirit.

The congregation returned to the sanctuary, warm and adorned with the beauty of Advent. Inspired by the Advent Movie, "I Heard the Bells," we sang loud and deep, joyous songs of God's loving presence, surprised by our own unfolding.

Through the loyalty of our member and friends, the continued dedication of our volunteers and staff, we will continue "to live like a river flows, carried by the surprise of our own unfolding," moving ever toward our one true Source!



CHURCH COUNCIL PRESIDENT ANNUAL REPORT 2025

St. Luke's UCC celebrates another year in service of our faith and our Independence community. Our online and in-person attendance continues to expand, welcoming visitors from near and far (and from the Sanctuary AND Fellowship Hall!). The ability of the congregation to embrace new members and make them feel welcome is a testament to our open and affirming commitment to all.

Fellowship and stewardship remain fundamental to who we are! Before and after service fellowship can be seen in the hallways and fellowship hall. Many sit to visit and check in with each other. During our repair of the HVAC system in the sanctuary, we held intimate hybrid services in the fellowship hall. It was remarkable to see the strength and resilience of the congregation during this time. For the community, we continue to support our congregation and neighbors in need. We see this need increasing and continue to look for ways to provide support, including blessing bags and providing simple food items as needed.

The Church Council continues to work diligently to manage the finances and workings of the church in the best interest of the congregation. Financially, we were challenged to find the funds to repaid the HVAC and thanks to the generosity of the congregation, friends and memorial funds we were able to complete the repairs. Council continues to look for ways to minimize the budget needs while still keeping up with the inflation and cost of living increases. We do continue to have deficits year over year, compounded this year due to the HVAC needs. We are blessed to have memorial funds whose interest helps to offset that deficit.

As we move into 2026, I am confident in our faith, our staff and our congregation. We will continue to be a caring and vibrant community, welcoming to all.

Respectfully,
Julie Sehr, President



TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT 2025

The Financial Reports for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025 can be found within this annual report. We continue to save on Pastor Paul's health insurance since he changed coverage to Dianne's group insurance in 2023.

Our Memorial Fund Investments continue to draw the highest interest we can find and still follow the church's investment policy.

For fiscal year 2025, our investments earned **about 4.5%**. Please refer to the Investment

Report, located within this annual report, for investment details.

For FY-2025, Current Expense Revenue (the amount received from offerings) was less than the amount required to cover expenses. The Multhaupt Fund (the fund that has been designated to be used to cover Current Expense deficits) earned \$15,781.18; however, the total deficit was \$17,787.26. The difference of \$2,787.26 was taken from the Multhaupt Fund principal. In FY-2026, Multhaupt earnings are anticipated to be around \$15,000. A summary of the Multhaupt Fund investments is contained within this annual report.

Since July, the start of the 2026 fiscal year, revenue received has again not met our current expense needs. The HVAC replacement project has been the focus since early July – see next paragraph for details. The current expense donations have decreased through December with our deficit at the end of December at \$21,612 which is more than \$11,000 above last December. With six months remaining in the fiscal year, there is still time for the congregation to make up a large portion of this deficit so that Multhaupt Fund principal will not have to be used again this year.

HVAC Project – A total budget for the project of \$124,000 was approved by the congregation. The project is complete except for landscaping and the final cost will be about \$123,000. Through the generosity of St. Luke's members and friends we raised over \$87,000 towards the cost of the project. Council recommended, and the congregation approved, the use of \$8,116.52 in undesignated memorials (with approval from those families); \$1,322.54 in unused misc. accounts along with \$25,000 in Memorial Fund Church Improvement interest (leaving us approximately \$25k for future needs) and up to \$45,000 from the Multhaupt fund. Due to all the generous donations to the HVAC project, we will NOT have to use ANY Multhaupt funds.

Please do not hesitate to ask questions regarding any of these items.

Karen Zuiderhof, Treasurer

The rest of the Treasurer's report can be obtained from the church office

**LIVING
MEMORIAL
FUNDS
COMMITTEE
ANNUAL REPORT
2025**

**ST. LUKE'S
LIVING
MEMORIAL FUNDS
COMMITTEE**

Teresa Harris, Penny Johnson, Dan O'Neill, John Kritos, and Marita Ray served on the Memorial Committee in 2025. Our memorial funds were used in many ways at St. Luke's this year.

The six funds into which our memorial monies are divided are as follows:

1. **Scholarship Fund for Church Related Vocations** - for graduate studies in the field of Christian ministry.
2. **Local Congregation Scholarship Fund** - for members of our local congregation attending college or vocational school and our pastor's continuing education.
3. **Church Program Fund** - for Christian Education, library and media, youth, music and the performing arts, and van rental.
4. **Church Improvement Fund** - for equipment and emergency building needs.
5. **Church Mission Fund** - for community and world mission projects.
6. **Knapheide-Twiehaus Fund** – for current expenses.

The principal amount in each of these funds is invested. As our by-laws stipulate, only earnings accrued by these funds may be spent. Thus, the memorial funds provide an ongoing source of revenue to help our church each year.

The rest of the Living Memorial Funds report can be obtained from the church office

AUDIT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2025

Chris Bernard, Jeff Ray and Mel Sehrt met with Treasurer Karen Zuiderhof on Wednesday, October 29, 2025 to audit the fiscal year 2024-25 (July 2024 - June 2025) financial statements. The monthly reports were found to be accurate and in agreement with bank records. The expenses are well documented with receipts and bills. All bank statements and investment statements were organized and available.

Thanks to Karen for all your hard work and time with keeping the financial side of St. Luke's in order.

Submitted by the Investment Committee,
Chris Bernard
Jeff Ray
Mel Sehrt
Karen Zuiderhof, Treasurer

INVESTMENT COMMITTEE REPORT FISCAL YEAR 2025

The investment committee strives to meet the goal to "maximize investment income while maintaining the security of the principal" for both the Living Memorial Funds and the Multhaupt Fund.

We presently earning just under 5.0% in the Memorial and Multhaupt Funds in dividends and interest which are available to support programs and operations at St. Luke's. Since principal from the Multhaupt Fund was used to finance a sizable portion of the Sanctuary HVAC project, earnings going forward will be reduced.

The Committee conferred with our advisor at Edward Jones on several occasions by telephone and Zoom conference.

Submitted by the Investment Committee,
Chris Bernard
Jeff Ray
Mel Sehrt
Karen Zuiderhof, Treasurer

PERSONNEL ANNUAL REPORT 2025

The staff at St. Luke's shared their passion and dedication to our congregation throughout 2025. Pastor Paul Emily has delivered hybrid services that are available live on Facebook and anytime on YouTube. "Window's Into St. Luke's" remains a favorite amongst the congregation and has attracted many new members who continue to laugh at Dad joke Friday's. Pastor Emily remains committed to connecting with our members in need and strives to visit those that cannot attend in person. As an added challenge this year, Pastor Emily was asked to adjust to delivering hybrid services from the fellowship

hall while we worked to repair the heating and air conditioning in the sanctuary. He once again responded to the call and made the experience one we will all remember.

Supporting Pastor Emily, is Nanette Moore, our Administrative Assistant. She manages the day to day of the church and helps drive the livestream content including coordination of the backups. Nanette also creates and sends out a weekly "Glimpse into St. Luke's" to help keep us all engaged and informed. She also continues to help and support our Church Program Coordinator in her new role. Nanette adds so much value and we are thankful for her continued service and support of our congregation.

We welcomed our new Church Program Coordinator, Mariah Moseley to our staff in January 2025. Mariah quickly stepped into the position and has become a welcome addition to our team. Mariah works with the Board of Christian education and other volunteers to support Sunday School, numerous events throughout the year, children's time during worship and much more. This year the kids had a weekly Bible lesson, made many crafts and delivered an amazing Christmas pageant. We can't wait to see how we grow!

Oh the Music! Conductor Matthew Bennett and Organist/ Pianist Margie Foley are instrumental in the success we have had with our services. The violin, piano, organ, handbells, and choir played in numerous services throughout the year. With the temporary adjustment to the fellowship, Matthew and Margie together with help from volunteers John Kritos and Carol Lyon still delivered beautiful music. Together Matthew and Margie, along with many other talented musicians, delivered a beautiful Christmas Eve service continuing the long-standing tradition of this moving candlelight service. Their commitment and beautiful music continues to help us celebrate our faith.

The contributions of our staff are greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Sehrt,
Personnel Committee



CHURCH PROGRAM ANNUAL REPORT 2025

This year has been one of gratitude, growth, and joyful connection here at St. Luke's. I would like to begin by sincerely thanking the congregation for welcoming me into this role and for the tremendous support shown throughout the year. The encouragement, flexibility, and willingness to help made it possible for our programs and events to thrive, and I am deeply appreciative of the shared commitment to nurturing faith in our community.

Throughout the year, Christian Education supported and fostered many moments of fun and fellowship that strengthened relationships and encouraged spiritual growth. One highlight was our Lenten study, which invited participants to explore God's presence through one of the building blocks of life—water—creating space for reflection, conversation, and deeper connection. We also celebrated the confirmation of Jackson Jaberg and McKenzie McKinney, marking an important milestone in their faith journeys and in the life of our congregation.

In addition to ongoing Sunday School programming, the CE ministry sponsored or supported a wide variety of events throughout the year, including:

- Mardi Gras Dinner
- Fishing Derby and Palm Burning
- Palm Sunday Parade
- Stations of the Cross
- Pastor Paul's 10 year Anniversary Dinner
- Rally Sunday to kick off the Sunday School year
- Pride Brunch
- Easter Egg Hunt
- Summer Kids Club
- Advent Dinner with a Movie
- Baptisms and the welcoming of new members

With the addition of new members, we were especially blessed to celebrate the growth of our children's ministry. This year brought many new children into our classrooms. While we have not yet opened an additional classroom on a consistent basis, we regularly welcomed upwards of ten children each week. This growth led to a fun, energetic, and meaningful Christmas pageant that brought joy to the entire congregation.

The theme for Sunday School 2025/2026 has been “Canyons.” Each week, children and families are invited to check in by placing a sticker on a beautiful canyon mural painted by congregation member Lisa Jaberg. This interactive and welcoming visual has already become a meaningful way for participants to mark their presence and feel connected to the community. Adults then report to either the Prophet's or Dreamer's classes where members join both in person and online. The children have been meeting in the library, where we have been working on earning “Bible Bucks” by participating in prayer, worship via song, and engaging with a weekly Bible lesson. The learning is then extended in Worship during Pastor Paul's moments with Minnie and related activities at the Children's table in the Narthex.

There are countless additional ways Christian Education was supported throughout the year—through set-up and clean-up, creative contributions, warm welcomes, and behind-the-scenes help. Every act of participation, no matter how small, helped create an environment where faith could grow, and for that, we are truly thankful.

I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to those who have guided and supported the spiritual development of our community through serving as a Sunday School teacher this year: Jodie Puhr (Youth), Dianne Emily (Elementary Aged Youth), Dan O'Neill (Prophet's), and Linda Sehrt (Dreamer's). Special appreciation is also extended to the members of the CE Board who assisted with planning and supporting various events throughout the year; thank you Jessica Lavigne (Board President), Katy Emily, Kathy Lowry, Lisa Jaberg, and Natalie Spangler for all of your contributions! Also, a sincere thank you to Marita Ray, whose faithful and welcoming presence greeting families each Sunday has helped make Sunday School a place of belonging and joy.

As we reflect on this year, we are reminded of the words of scripture: “We are the church...” — called together not by a building alone, but through relationships rooted in faith, love, and service. The connections supported through our Christian Education programming this year have strengthened our congregation across generations. It has truly been an honor to serve within this community, and I am grateful for the opportunity to be part of all that God is doing at St. Luke's.

With love and
gratitude,

Mariah Moseley,
Church Program
Coordinator



**BUILDINGS AND
GROUNDS
ANNUAL REPORT
2025**

**BUILDING AND GROUNDS
ANNUAL REPORT
CALENDAR YEAR 2025**

Memorial Fund for Church Improvement earnings were used to cover the cost of building and grounds maintenance expenditures during the year including lawn care, snow removal, security system service contract and upgrades, the copier service contract, HVAC system maintenance, tree removal, toilet replacement, replacing sanctuary downspouts that were stolen, and replacing siding on the east facia of the sanctuary that was blown off during high winds.

After some 64 years of service, the AC system in the sanctuary was finally declared dead in June of this year. The Fellowship Hall was reconfigured to accommodate worship services starting in July while the HVAC system in the sanctuary was being replaced.

Since the one remaining boiler used for heating was also on life support, it was decided to move forward with complete removal and replacement of both systems. As discussions of various options for new systems had been underway for a couple of years, the optimum design had already been determined. All that was left to do was request formal bids for the work from contractors that were already familiar with the HVAC systems and desired options. The bid from Morton Man, LLC, using Daikin/Amana equipment, was determined to be the lowest evaluated bid and was accepted in August. Work to demolish and remove the existing equipment began shortly thereafter. Installation of the new equipment was carried out during the next few months, and we were able to return to the sanctuary in time for the first Sunday of Advent (November 30). The only remaining work to be completed as of the writing of this report is some landscaping around the AC units which will be done next spring.

Of the total sum needed, approximately \$123,000, over \$87,000 was donated by members and friends of St. Luke's. Additional funds came from various surplus church accounts, undesignated memorial accounts, and \$25,000 from the Memorial Fund for Major Repair. Any additional funds needed to complete the project (very little expected) will be taken from the Multhaupt Fund.

Thanks to the many helped with this project and other maintenance activities (trimming bushes, etc.) on several occasions throughout the year.

Submitted by:
Jeff Ray
Building and Grounds Coordinator

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2025

Online communications have become increasingly more important to our congregation every year. Our worship service is livestreamed on Facebook and uploaded to YouTube every Sunday. It is watched by members and friends who live out of our area. It is also watched by those that live in the area but aren't able to attend due to illness, vacations, etc. The livestream is watched live on Sundays but also at the person's convenience later in the week. If you have a Facebook page, please like, comment, and share the service and posts that

you see on our page. This helps other people find out what a wonderful church we have at St. Luke's!

Visitors usually watch services online before attending in person. We can build relationships with them by commenting online and making them feel comfortable and welcome. Watch for and welcome visitors who do attend in person. First time in-person visitors are given a small gift (Books of Psalms and a welcome note from Pastor Paul).

Windows, our private Facebook Group, has now grown to 170 members. Pastor Paul goes live in Windows at 9:45 am almost every weekday. You can watch live or later in the day – it's a great way to keep up with the latest happenings and learn more about the past and future sermons. We post announcements, quotes from Pastor Paul, events, prayer requests, games and activities in Windows. Please participate in these posts by liking and commenting on them. Not only is it fun, but it builds relationships and helps us get to know each other better. Feel free to invite friends who might enjoy the posts to join Windows. Since it is a private group, only people who join the group can see the posts.

Instagram is another way we try to reach members and friends. If you are on Instagram, please follow us. Sermons, quotes, and pictures are posted weekly.

A weekly newsletter, Glimpse into St. Luke's, is emailed to members every Friday morning. If you aren't receiving it, please let Nanette know and she'll add you to the list.

We ran a Facebook Ad for our Christmas Eve Service again this year. We spent just under \$75, reached almost 6,315 people and had 158 people visit our website as a result of the ad. There were several visitors in attendance at the service.

Your help in connecting with people both in person and online is appreciated! Marita Ray
Nanette Moore



MUSIC COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2025

Matt Bennett, Conductor and Violinist and Margie Foley, Organist and Pianist, continue to provide wonderful music for the worship services. The congregation thoroughly enjoys the music they add to each service. We are thankful to have Carol Lyon and John Kritos accompany the hymns on the piano or organ.

The chancel choir and handbell choir perform at some of the services. The rehearsal days and times change to meet the needs of the performers. All are encouraged to join the choirs. The most recent service both choirs performed at was the Christmas Eve service. Both did a fantastic job.

We appreciate how Margie and Matt go above and beyond for the services. Margie plays handbells and Matt, when many in the choirs were sick was able to bring in reinforcement musicians for the Christmas Eve Service.

Pete and Lisa Jaberg shared their talents multiple times this year. Natalie Spangler also shares her talents and led the music at the Palm Burning service. In July we help Sacred Music Sunday, a worship service that features additional congregational hymns as well as instrumental solos, duets and more. It has become a much anticipated service.

The Music Committee appreciates Matt, Margie and all the musicians for the beautiful music they provide for each service.



**ST. LUKE'S IN
PICTURES
2025**

SUNDAY SCHOOL



MOMENTS WITH MINNIE





MUSIC



WORSHIP SPACES



SPECIAL SERVICES

PALM SUNDAY



SONRISE



STATIONS OF THE EGGS



EASTER



ADVENT, PAGEANT & CHRISTMAS EVE

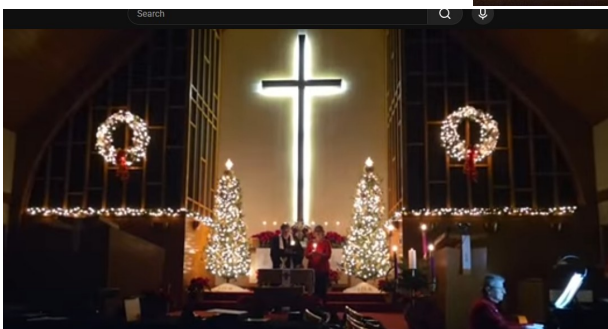


ADVENT LUNCH & MOVIE

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT



CHRISTMAS EVE



BAPTISMS AND NEW MEMBERS



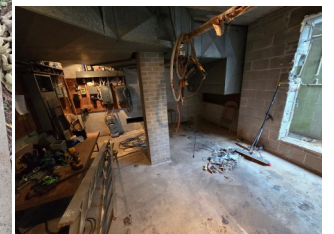
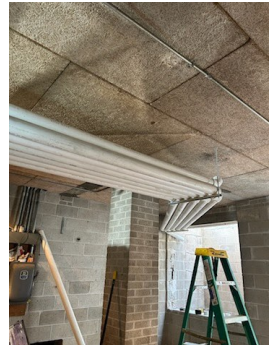
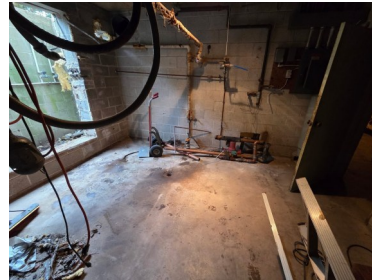
CONFIRMATION



PASTOR PAUL'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



NEW HVAC SYSTEM INSTALLED



PALM BURNING & FISHING DERBY



HALLOWEEN



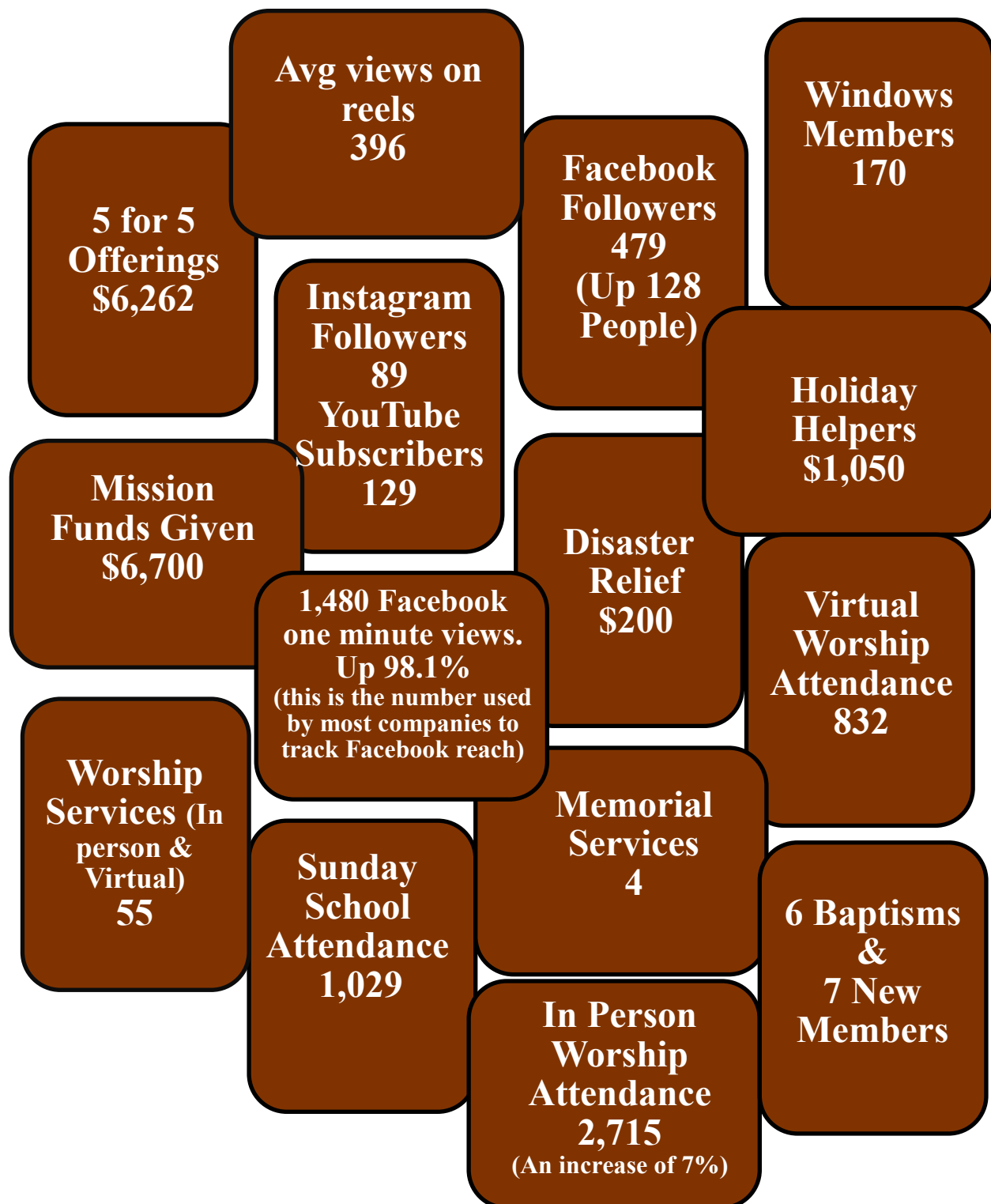
HANGING OF THE GREENS



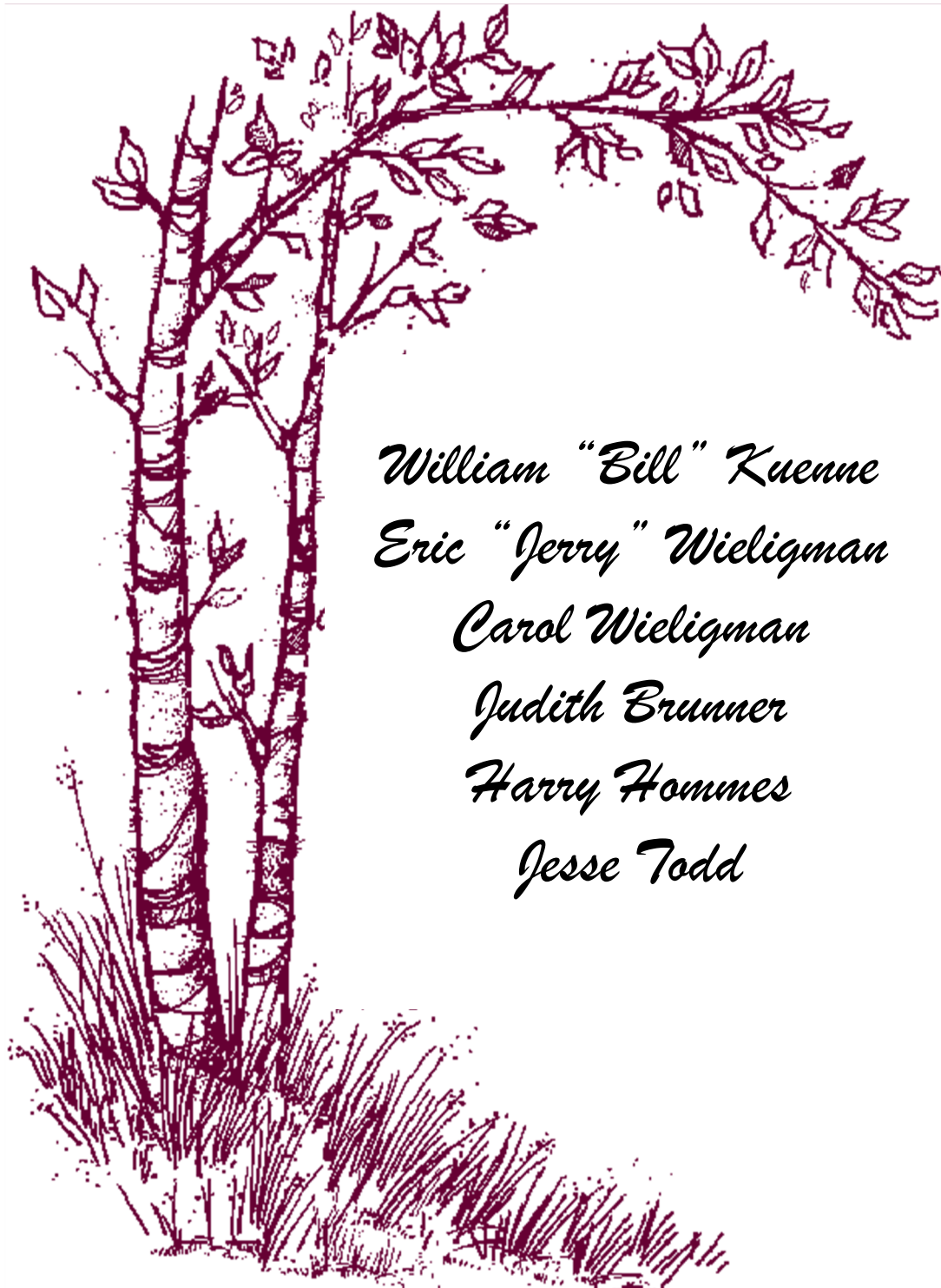
PRIDE FEST & INFORMATION SESSION



St. Luke's By the Numbers



In Memory Of Our Loved Ones



William "Bill" Kuenne
Eric "Jerry" Wieligman
Carol Wieligman
Judith Brunner
Harry Hommes
Jesse Todd